Appl. No.: 10/069,081

Amdt. dated June 3, 2004

Reply to Office Action of December 4, 2003

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, or claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims:**

1. (canceled) See new claim 21.

2. (currently amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim  $\pm$  21, wherein the outer housing is provided with a cap and wherein the inner housing is attached to said cap such that the cap and inner housing can be removed from the outer housing together.

- 3. (original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 2 wherein the cap is attached to the outer housing be means of a screw thread.
- 4. (original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the inner housing is attached to the cap by means of a snap fit arrangement.
- 5. (currently amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim ± 21, wherein said inner housing is provided with sealing edge is a feather tip seal for sealing against said outer housing inside surface.
- 6. (currently amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim  $\frac{1}{21}$ , wherein said inner housing is less rigid than said outer housing.
- 7. (currently amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim ± 21, wherein said outer housing is in the form of a cylindrical mixing chamber adapted to be provided with a mixing mechanism comprising a blade arrangement rotatable around said mixing chamber.

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- 8. (currently amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim  $\pm$  21, wherein said outer housing is in the form of a bowl shaped mixing chamber adapted to be provided with a mixing mechanism comprising a blade arrangement rotatable around said <u>mixing</u> chamber.
- 9. (currently amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim  $\pm 21$ , further comprising means allowing gas to circulate around the <del>cement</del> powder component contained in the inner housing.
- 10. (canceled) See new claim 22.
- 11. (original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein the inner housing is attached to the cap by means of a snap fit arrangement.
- 12. (currently amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said inner housing is provided with sealing edge is a feather tip seal for sealing against said housing inside surface.
- 13. (original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said inner housing is less rigid than said outer housing.
- 14. (currently amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said outer housing is in the form of a cylindrical mixing chamber adapted to be provided with a mixing mechanism comprising a blade arrangement rotatable around said <u>mixing</u> chamber.
- 15. (currently amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said outer housing is in the form of a bowl shaped mixing chamber adapted to be provided with a

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mixing mechanism comprising a blade arrangement rotatable around said <u>mixing</u> chamber.

- 16. (currently amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 2, further comprising means allowing gas to circulate around the <del>cement</del> <u>powder component</u> contained in the inner housing.
- 17. (currently amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein said inner housing is provided with sealing edge is a feather tip seal for sealing against said outer housing inside surface.
- 18. (original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein said inner housing is less rigid than said outer housing.
- 19. (currently amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein said outer housing is in the form of a cylindrical mixing chamber adapted to be provided with a mixing mechanism comprising a blade arrangement rotatable around said <u>mixing</u> chamber.
- 20. (currently amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein said outer housing is in the form of a bowl shaped mixing chamber adapted to be provided with a mixing mechanism comprising a blade arrangement rotatable around said <u>mixing</u> chamber.
- 21. (new) An apparatus for containing a powder component and mixing the powder component with a liquid component to form an orthopedic cement, the apparatus comprising:

an outer housing defining a mixing chamber having an inside surface; and

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an inner housing defining a powder component storage chamber containing the powder component, said powder component storage chamber having an open end surrounded by a sealing edge, said inner housing secured to said outer housing with said sealing edge in sealing contact with said inside surface to close the open end of said powder component storage chamber, said inner housing being removable from said outer housing to open said powder component storage chamber and release said powder component into said mixing chamber.

22. (new) A method for containing and releasing a powder component of an orthopedic cement comprising:

disposing said powder component in a powder component storage chamber defined by an inner housing, said chamber having an open end surrounded by a sealing edge;

securing said inner housing to an outer housing defining a mixing chamber with an inside surface, said sealing edge in sealing contact with said inside surface to close said open end of said powder component storage chamber; and

removing said inner housing from said outer housing, thereby separating said sealing edge from said inside surface to release said powder component into said mixing chamber.